

Message Text

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LUSAKA FOR ROGERS/SCHAUFEELE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP (ROGERS, WILLIAM D., SCHAUFEELE, WILLIAM E.)

SUBJECT: TRAVEL: ROGERS AND SCHAUFEELE

REF: (A) LONDON 13361; (B) NAIROBI 8914

1. I SPOKE TO DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER PANGUENE MORNING OF AUGUST 25 AND INFORMED HIM THAT ROGERS/SCHAUFEELE WOULD BE ABLE MEET WITH PRESIDENT MACHEL ON MONDAY, AUGUST 30. PANGUENE SEEMED PLEASED AND THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE NO DIFFICULTY IN SCHEDULING MEETING MONDAY MORNING TO ALLOW ROGERS/SCHAUFEELE TIME TO MAKE THEIR ONWARD CONNECTIONS, BUT SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO CHECK WITH PRESIDENT. HE ASKED ME TO NOTIFY HIM ASAP WHEN ROGERS AND SCHAUFEELE WILL ARRIVE MAPUTO.

2. I ADVISED PANGUENE THAT ROGERS/SCHAUFEELE WOULD BE ARRIVING AND DEPARTING IN DATT AIRCRAFT, WHICH WOULD HAVE TO MAKE ONE REFUELLING STOP AT BEIRA EN ROUTE FROM DAR TO MAPUTO. PANGUENE ASKED THAT WE PUT DETAILS IN A DIPLOMATIC NOTE AND SAID THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY WOULD TAKE CARE OF THE REFUELLING, OVERFLIGHT AND LANDING CLEARANCES AND VISAS.

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3. WHILE PANGUENE DID NOT HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT USE OF DATT AIRCRAFT, BELIEVE IT WOULD BE TO OUR ADVANTAGE TO AVOID OR MINIMIZE USE OF DATT AIRCRAFT IF CAN BE DONE WITHOUT TOO MUCH INCONVENIENCE. DOES EXTRA DAY ADDED TO ITINERARY GIVE US THIS OPTION?

4. THERE ARE TWO REASONS.

A. FIRST, SINCE INDEPENDENCE GPRM HAS MADE MUCH OF FACT THAT ITS PORTS AND AIRFIELDS ARE NOT OPEN TO MILITARY SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT OF BIG POWERS. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, NO SOVIET MILITARY SHIP OR AIRCRAFT HAS USED PORTS AND AIRFIELDS IN MOZAMBIQUE. WE WOULD LIKE TO AVOID ESTABLISHING A PRECEDENT FOR COMMUNIST COUNTRIES TO DRAW ON. BELIEVE WE HAVE MORE TO LOSE THAN GAIN IF GPRM DEPARTS FROM CURRENT PRACTICE.

B. SECOND, ALTHOUGH PANGUENE HAS NOT BROUGHT UP MATTER OF PUBLICITY, WE BELIEVE MACHEL WOULD LIKE TO CONDUCT TALKS AS DISCREETLY AS POSSIBLE. HERETOFORE, MINIMAL MEDIA COVERAGE OF U.S. VISITORS SUGGESTS THAT GPRM AND MACHEL PREFER NOT HAVE ATTENTION DRAWN TO THEIR CONTACT WITH U.S. OFFICIALS OR VIPS. WE THINK MACHEL WOULD BE MORE RECEPTIVE TO FOLLOW-ON TALKS ON SUBJECT SOUTHERN AFRICA IF THIS VISIT RECEIVES MINIMAL PUBLICITY. USE OF DATT AIRCRAFT AND ITS OVERNIGHT PARKING AT MAPUTO AIRPORT WILL INEVITABLY BE TOPIC OF LOCAL GOSSIP, AS WAS CASE WHEN GOVERNOR SCRANTON FLEW IN ON USG AIRCRAFT.

5. SUGGEST CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO ONE OF FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVES.

A. ROGERS/SCHAUFEELE FLY DIRECTLY FROM DAR TO JOHANNESBURG, REFUELLING IN LILONGWE AS THE AIRLINE CHARTER FROM NAIROBI WOULD HAVE DONE. (REF B). ROGERS/SCHAUFEELE COULD THEN EITHER CHARTER PRIVATE SOUTH AFRICAN PLANE TO FLY FROM JOHANNESBURG TO MAPUTO, OR, BOOK RESERVATIONS ON OF SA-142, DEPARTING JOHANNESBURG 1730 HOURS, SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, ARRIVING

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MAPUTO 1850 HOURS. ROGERS/SCHAUFEELE COULD RETURN TO JOHANNESBURG MONDAY AFTERNOON VIA SAME SA CHARTER OR ON MOZAMBIQUE CHARTER.

B. ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE FOR ROGERS/SCHAUFEELE TO FLY FROM DAR TO MAPUTO AS SCHEDULED ON DATT AIRCRAFT, BUT AIRCRAFT FLY ON IMMEDIATELY TO JOHANNESBURG, WITH ROGERS/SCHAUFEELE FLYING MAPUTO-JO-

HANNESBURG MONDAY AFTERNOON ON MOZAMBIQUE-BASED
CHARTER. THIS ALTERNATIVE WOULD AVOID PARKING DATT
AIRCRAFT AT MAPUTO AIRPORT OVERNIGHT. FLYING TIME
FROM MAPUTO TO JOHANNESBURG VIA DATT OR CHARTER
ABOUT SAME.

6. EMBASSY REPEATS THAT GPRM HAS NOT RAISED
ANY OBJECTION USE OF DATT AIRCRAFT, NOR DO WE
ANTICIPATE IT DOING SO. HOWEVER, ROGERS/SCHAUFLE
MAY WISH CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES IN LIGHT PARA 4
ABOVE. PLEASE ADVISE.
DE PREE

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